



Louisiana Archaeological Society

NEWSLETTER

RICHARD A. WEINSTEIN, Newsletter Editor

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

As 1995 comes to a close, I would like to take a moment to extend my thanks to my Executive Committee for supporting me these last two years as your President.

Jon Gibson has done a super job of cranking out bulletins. Two more should be coming out by the annual meeting. T. R. Kidder has the material for another bulletin slated for publication in early 1996. This last bulletin should be the 1995 issue. With only one more planned for later in the year (the 1996 issue) we should be caught up! I believe this effort will greatly help to generate new L. A. S. members, and will certainly please our present ones. Thank you both so much!

While I am passing out accolades, Rich Weinstein certainly deserves a standing ovation. Rich, you do so much for the L. A. S! The newsletter requires much editing and personal time; thank you for all you do. It is a handsome publication and you should be proud. Thanks also to you and Tammy Bridges (of the Division of Archaeology) for all of the hard work that goes into mailing both the newsletters and the bulletins. Our hats are off to you!

I can't forget David Jeane—what a big job you have! Our Treasurer works all year round for the L. A. S. David takes care of all of our finances, as well as our membership files. David, I (as you well know) have held

this position and I know, first hand, the endless time and effort that goes into what you do! We all can't thank you enough.

I would like to thank Donita Burton for all of her tireless efforts as our Secretary for the past several years. Donita, you did a great job and we all owe you a debt of gratitude for all of your hard work. Thank you sincerely from all of us! Oh, and thank you, Maureen, for being the present loyal and efficient Secretary. Jim Fogleman and I are lucky to have you.

Thanks also go to Ray Fredlund for heading up the organization of the Archives. Ray is in possession of our boxes of archival material, and he will begin sorting out the "keepers" next. He plans to begin cataloguing after that. Thanks, Ray.

I certainly have enjoyed being your President for 1994-1995. The L. A. S. has a stupendous Executive Committee and together we have gotten a lot accomplished. Thank you again for all of your support during the last two years. I am proud of all we were able to do, and I will be equally proud at our annual meeting to pass the gavel on to Jim Fogleman. Good luck, Jim!

Linda Jackson
L. A. S. President

port in February.

Mary C. Brice
Northwest Chapter, L. A. S.
Rt. 1, Box 229
Bivins, Texas 75555

ARCHAEOLOGICAL VACATION TOURS

With the success of last year's trip to the Yucatán, several L. A. S. members have helped to put together similar tours to the southwestern United States and Guatemala and Honduras. Present members may wish to join one or both of these tours. Details of each tour are provided below.

Guatemala and Honduras

Plan to join Julian Cranfill and friends on this educational and fun-filled tour, with highlights on each of the two countries. Follow the footsteps of the ancient Maya in Guatemala, and visit prominent archaeological sites along the way.

Itinerary

March 15, 1996 — DALLAS/GUATEMALA CITY. Afternoon departure on American Airlines for Guatemala City. Meeting on arrival and transfer to the Camino Real Hotel.

March 16 — GUATEMALA CITY. Morning pick up for tour of the city, visiting the Relief Map of the Republic, the Cathedral, the National Palace, the Civic Center, the Archaeological Museum, the Popol Vuh Museum, the Ixchel Museum of textiles and the nearby archaeological site of Kaminal Juyu, and the business and residential districts of the city.

March 17 — GUATEMALA CITY/CHICHICASTENANGO. Leave early in the morning for Market Day at Chichicastenango. On arrival visit the colorful open-air market and the Church of Saint Thomas. The afternoon is at leisure for further shopping or

to see the town on your own. Overnight at the lovely Mayan Inn.

March 18 — CHICHICASTENANGO/LAKE ATITLAN. In the morning, transfer to Lake Atitlan and join the launch excursion to the picturesque lake-side village of Santiago Atitlan. Travel to Antigua in the afternoon. Overnight at the Casa Santo Domingo Hotel in Antigua.

March 19 — ANTIGUA/GUATEMALA CITY. Morning sightseeing in this old colonial capital includes a visit to the Main square, Palace of the Captains General, Churches, Monasteries, as well as other important ruins. Afternoon return to Guatemala City and the Hotel Camino Real.

March 20 — GUATEMALA CITY/TIKAL. Early morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Flores. On arrival you will be transferred to Tikal. You will visit the Q Complex, the Great Plaza, squared off with the Pyramids of the Grand Jaguar and the Masks, the Palace of the Nobles, and Pyramid IV. After lunch, visit the museum which houses some of the the many pre-Columbian art treasures found during the excavations of the site. Afternoon transfer to Flores to board for flight back to Guatemala City.

March 21 — GUATEMALA CITY/COPAN. In the morning you will drive through eastern Guatemala, via the states of El Progreso and Zacapa to arrive at the boarder with Honduras. After immigration formalities, you will drive to Copan, one of the most fascinating Mayan sites. You will be allowed to explore and marvel at the beautiful stelae and majestic temples, including a complete ball court. In the afternoon, you will return to Guatemala, with overnight accommodations provided at Motel Longarone.

March 22 — QUIRIGUA/GUATEMALA CITY. After breakfast you will depart for the archaeological site of Quirigua. Some of the most interesting and beautiful Mayan stelae are found at Quirigua in the state of Izabal. In the afternoon, return to the Hotel Camino Real in Guatemala City.

Thursday 6/12 or 6/19

PUEBLITOS OF DINETAH. Long thought to be refuge sites built by the Navajos during the late 1680s, these "small pueblos" possibly range in time from about 1550 to 1760. Pueblo Indians fleeing the Spanish after the Pueblo Revolt may have been here as well. These magnificent structures are relatively undiscovered by mass tourism, and Moore Anthropological Research will provide our expert guides as we visit these outposts.

Friday 6/13 or 6/21

TRADING POSTS TOUR. We will visit trading posts that have been in business for over 100 years. This is an opportunity to understand the interplay between Euro-American businesses and Navajo culture, and how they have sustained each other through the years. If you want to purchase authentic artifacts, jewelry, or Navajo weavings, this is the day you are sure to find them.

Saturday 6/14 or 6/21

DEPARTURE. Miss Gail will send us off with one of her famous breakfasts as we make the drive back to Albuquerque to catch our planes (or other transportation) back home.

Payment

Each tour can accommodate from 8 to 10 people. The first week will cost \$750.00 per person, double occupancy, while the second week will cost \$675.00 per person if 10 L. A. S. members choose that tour. Single rooms also are available at a slightly higher rate. Note that the overall cost does not include airfare (or any other transportation) to Albuquerque; nor does it include the cost of the side trips (the train ride is about \$40.00). It does, however, include all breakfasts, all lunches, and two dinners. It also covers entry fees to all archaeological sites, plus all professional guide services. Ground transportation during the tour will be by van.

The deadline for signing up is March 15, 1996, and a \$250.00 deposit is required. The balance is due April 30. Please remember that the tours are limited to a maximum of

10 people, so acceptance will be on first come, first served basis.

If interested, contact Linda Jackson at (504) 586-6765 during office hours.

CHAPTER NEWS

Central Chapter

**Reported by
Ellis H. Denning**

Regular Thursday meetings were held throughout the summer months, although the weather was too hot for outdoor activities. However, a limited amount of excavation was done on the kitchen wall at the Tyrone Plantation on Bayou Rapides, Alexandria. The remaining wall, which has been reduced to ground level, is made entirely of "slave made brick" of standard dimensions. They were laid in a running course two bricks wide and mortared. The footing is three bricks wide and appears to be made of a better fired quality brick.

Jeff Girard lent his surveying skill in tying together all of the original structures on the property on our survey map. The owner, Judge Rae Swent, has recently converted the ground floor rooms into Bed and Breakfast apartments. The outer covered walks are used to display the artifacts from the plantation days. The chapter is assisting in this effort as well. (Tours of the residence and grounds, plus reservations for the apartments, can be arranged by calling Marion Donaldson at [318] 449-3972.)

Of interest during the conversion, was the removal of the original floor. One inch of cement overlay flat-lying, uncemented brick which, in turn, rested on about three inches of screened charcoal. The builder, Gen. George Mason Graham, made good use of the absorptive character of the charcoal when he had to hide eight ponies from Union foragers for a time. The other livestock and food stocks wound up in the bellies of the "Blue Bellies."

Northeast Chapter

Reported by
Claire Davis

The October meeting was held on the 5th of the month and featured Dr. Joe Saunders, who gave a presentation on "Recent Archaeological Investigations in Ouachita Parish: A Pre-Poverty Point Mound Complex."

This was followed on the 7th by a picnic at the Poverty Point site. While there, members were treated to demonstrations on the atlatl, blowgun, bola, cooking balls, flint knapping, basket weaving, and bead work.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

1996 Caddo Conference

The 1996 Caddo Conference will be held Thursday evening, March 28, through Sunday morning, March 31, at the Student Union Ballroom on the campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. At this time the exact schedule of events has not been finalized, but it is expected that a reception will be held Thursday night, and that papers will be presented Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning. Representatives of the Oklahoma Caddo will attend the conference and will demonstrate traditional Caddo dances on Saturday evening.

Pete Gregory and Jeff Girard will serve as co-coordinators for the meeting, and can provide more details as time for the conference approaches. Anyone interested in attending the conference and/or presenting a paper, should contact either Pete or Jeff at the following phone numbers:

Pete Gregory
(318) 357-4364 (Pete's office/lab)
(318) 357-6195 (Dept. office)

Jeff Girard
(318) 357-5471

1996 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Archaeological Association

The 1996 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Archaeological Association will be held March 15-17 at Cottonlandia Museum, Greenwood, Mississippi. Sam Brookes of the U.S. Forest Service, Jackson, Mississippi, is the Program Chair for the meeting, while John Van Hecke, newly appointed Director of the Cottonlandia Museum, will serve as Local Arrangements Coordinator. For more information, contact either Sam Brookes at (601) 965-5518 or John Van Hecke at (601) 453-0925.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Oregon State University

The people who first crossed the Bearing land bridge and gradually spread across North America have long been the focus of public fascination and scholarly research. Unfortunately, the few traces left of their presence are rare, threatened by development, and prized by collectors. The remains of the first Americans, once gone, are gone forever. Stewardship of these remains, with their information about our past environments, is a public responsibility.

The Public Trust and the First Americans, just published by Oregon University Press, addresses the question of how we should manage these precious resources—and how they can be preserved while being used to educate the public. This volume, edited by Ruthann Knudson and Bennie C. Keel of the National Park Service, was developed from a symposium cosponsored by the NPS and the university's Center for the Study of the First Americans.

A crucial part of learning about the people, the way they lived, and the world around them is an appreciation for the interrelationships among their remains and the contexts in which they are found. In the words of the editors, nothing is simple about understanding the lives of the continent's first in-

Lastly, Part IV discusses "Archaeology and Society," and includes the following:

Black Day at Slack Farm...site looting and its consequences.

The Rose Affair...preservation of Shakespeare's theatre.

Flooding the Maya Heartland...archaeology and economic development.

Enlightened Stewardship...the Archaeological Conservancy.

Detective Stories...tracking down collections.

A Wanderer's Lament...cultural tourism.

Digging De Mille...archaeology and popular culture.

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